Congressman Dent pleased with Dubai Ports' withdrawal from controversial purchase

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 9) — U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent (PA-15) made the following statement about the decision by Dubai Ports World (DPW) to divest itself of American holdings.

"I am pleased that the government-controlled company Dubai Ports World (DPW) has announced that it is divesting itself of control of United States port operations. This proposed port takeover is a matter that raised a great deal of both national security and foreign policy concerns. Accordingly, I fully supported a measure passed by the House Appropriations Committee yesterday that would have terminated any and all funding in support of this transaction.

"From the outset, the Administration has mishandled the DP World transaction — from the lack of transparency surrounding the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) to the threatened presidential veto of any Congressional oversight action. Going forward, it is my fervent hope that the Administration will engage in better communication and cooperation with the Congress prior to affirming such sensitive transactions in the future.

"As a member of the House Homeland Security Committee, my primary concern is the safety of the American people. As part of carrying out this responsibility, I want to be sure that security at American ports is the best that it can possibly be. Many of my constituents have voiced to me their concerns and uncertainties with regard to the DPW deal, and I share their apprehensions. Accordingly, I am pleased with today's announcement by DPW and applaud the amendment to the forthcoming Supplemental spending bill that was passed out of the Appropriations Committee yesterday."